



2015 Ohio Elections Calendar



Ohio Secretary of State
Jon Husted

2014	Reference
Dec. 11	Last day for local option petitioners to send street listing to Division of Liquor Control (55 days before Feb. 4, 2015 deadline for filing petitions for May 5, 2015 primary election) R.C. 4301.33 , 4305.14
Dec. 20	UOCAVA absentee ballots for Feb. 3, 2015 special election must be ready (45 days before special election) R.C. 3511.04 Boards of elections must update and publish notices of Feb. 3, 2015 special election by this date and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 45 days before special election) R.C. 3511.16
Dec. 23	Boards of elections must advertise in newspaper(s) the places, dates, times, qualifications, and methods for voter registration (6 weeks before special election) R.C. 3503.12
2015	Reference
Jan. 1	Applications for absentee ballots for 2015 elections may be accepted (first day of the year) R.C. 3509.03 , 3511.02
Jan. 5*	Deadline for voter registration for Feb. 3 special election (30 days before special election) R.C. 3503.19
Jan. 6	Non-UOCAVA absentee ballots for Feb. 3 special election must be ready (first day after the close of voter registration) R.C. 3509.01
Jan. 14	Deadline to file corrections and challenges to precinct registration lists (20 days before special election) R.C. 3503.24 Deadline for an elector to challenge qualification of another elector (20 days before special election)..... R.C. 3505.19 Committees advocating or opposing issues on the Feb. 3 special election ballot must file by 4 p.m. to be recognized as a committee to appoint observers (20 days before special election) R.C. 3505.21
Jan. 20	Boards of elections must prepare precinct voter registration lists (14 days before special election) R.C. 3503.23
Jan. 23	Deadline for political parties, groups of candidates and issue committees to file notice of observer appointments (11 days before special election) R.C. 3505.21
Jan. 24	Boards of elections must give public notice of election (10 days before special election)..... R.C. 3501.03
Jan. 25	Boards of elections must prepare and publish notices of the May 5 primary/special election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 100 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3511.16
Jan. 31	Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed must be received by the boards of elections by noon (3 days before special election) R.C. 3509.03 , 08 , 3511.02
Feb. 2	Amendments to observer appointments must be filed by 4 p.m. (day before special election)..... R.C. 3505.21 Boards of elections must submit verification forms for handicapped accessible parking and handicapped accessible polling locations to the Secretary of State's office (no later than day before special election) R.C. 3501.29
Feb. 3	Special Election may be held. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. R.C. 3501.01 , 32 If voter, or voter's minor child, is hospitalized because of accident or medical emergency, voter may apply for an absentee ballot until 3 p.m. R.C. 3509.08 Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. Mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls R.C. 3509.05 , 3511.11
Feb. 4	Constitutional amendments proposed by joint resolution of the General Assembly must be filed with Secretary of State (90 days before primary/special election) OH Const. XVI. §1 Declarations of candidacy for partisan candidates must be filed by 4 p.m. (90 days before primary election) R.C. 3513.05 Local questions and issues for May 5 primary/special election, including local option petitions, must be certified to or filed with boards of elections by 4 p.m. (90 days before primary/special election)..... R.C. 731.28 , 29 , 3501.02 , 4301.33 , 331 , 332 , 333 , 334 , 4305.14
Feb. 13	Absentee ballots returned by U.S. Mail must be postmarked not later than Feb. 2 and received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after special election) R.C. 3509.05 , 3511.11 UOCAVA absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after special election) R.C. 3511.11
Feb. 14	Boards of elections may begin official canvass of Feb. 3 special election ballots (11 days after special election) R.C. 3505.32
Feb. 17*	Boards of elections must certify the validity and sufficiency of partisan candidates' petitions (78 days before primary election) R.C. 3513.05 Boards of elections must certify the validity and sufficiency of local option petitions (78 days before primary/special election) R.C. 4301.33 , 331 , 332 , 333 , 334 , 4305.14
Feb. 18	Boards of elections must begin official canvass of Feb. 3 special election ballots no later than this date (15 days after special election) R.C. 3505.32
Feb. 20	Protests against partisan candidates' petitions must be filed by 4 p.m. (74 days before primary election) R.C. 3513.05 Protests against local option petitions must be filed by 4 p.m. (74 days before primary/special election) R.C. 4301.33 , 331 , 332 , 333 , 334 , 4305.14
Feb. 23*	Write-in candidates for May 5 primary election must file declarations of intent by 4 p.m. (72 days before primary election) R.C. 3513.041
Feb. 24	Boards of elections must complete canvass of Feb. 3 special election ballots no later than this date (21 days after special election) R.C. 3505.32 Form of official ballots for May 5 primary/special election must be certified by Secretary of State to boards of elections (70 days before primary/special election)..... R.C. 3513.05 Board of elections of most populous county in a multi-county subdivision must certify names of all candidates to other boards of elections (70 days before primary election) R.C. 3513.05
Feb. 27	Protests against write-in candidates must be filed by 4 p.m. (67 days before primary election) R.C. 3513.041
March 6	Boards of elections must schedule a program for instruction of precinct election officials (within 60 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3501.27
March 21	UOCAVA absentee ballots for May 5 primary/special election must be ready (45 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3511.04 Boards of elections must update and publish notices of May 5 primary/special election by this date and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 45 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3511.16
March 24	Boards of elections must advertise in newspaper(s) the places, dates, times, qualifications, and methods for voter registration (6 weeks before primary/special election) R.C. 3503.12
April 5	Feb. 3 special election ballots may be discarded unless ordered held by a court or the Secretary of State (61 days after special election) R.C. 3505.31
April 6*	Deadline for voter registration for May 5 primary/special election (30 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3501.10(B) , 3503.19
April 7	Non-UOCAVA absentee ballots for May 5 primary/special election must be ready (first day after close of voter registration) R.C. 3509.01
April 15	Deadline to file corrections and challenges to precinct registration lists (20 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3503.24 Deadline for an elector to challenge qualification of another elector (20 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3505.19 Committees advocating or opposing issues on May 5 primary/special election ballot must file by 4 p.m. to be recognized as a committee to appoint observers (20 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3505.21
April 21	Boards of elections must prepare precinct voter registration lists (14 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3503.23
April 24	Deadline for political parties, groups of candidates and issue committees to file notice of observer appointments (11 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3505.21
April 25	Boards of elections must give public notice of election (10 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3501.03
April 26	Boards of elections must prepare and publish notices of the Aug. 4 special election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 100 days before special election) R.C. 3511.16
April 27*	Certificate to fill vacancy on ballot caused by death of candidate whose name is on May 5 primary election ballot in more than one county must be filed by 4 p.m. (10 days before primary election) R.C. 3513.30
April 30	Certificate to fill vacancy on ballot caused by death of candidate whose name is on the May 5 primary election ballot in only one county must be filed by 4 p.m. (5 days before primary election) R.C. 3513.30
May 2	Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed for May 5 primary/special election must be received by boards of elections by noon (3 days before primary/special election) R.C. 3509.03 , 08 , 3511.02
May 4	Nominating petitions of independent candidates for offices for which a primary election may be held must be filed by 4 p.m. (day before primary election) R.C. 3513.257 Amendments to observer appointments must be filed by 4 p.m. (day before primary/special election) R.C. 3505.21 Boards of elections must submit verification forms of handicapped accessible parking and handicapped accessible polling locations to the Secretary of State's office (no later than day before primary/special election) R.C. 3501.29
May 5	Primary/Special Election Day. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. R.C. 3501.01 , 32 If voter, or voter's minor child, is hospitalized because of accident or medical emergency, voter may apply for an absentee ballot until 3 p.m. R.C. 3509.08 Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. Mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls R.C. 3509.05 , 3511.11
May 6	Local questions and issues for Aug. 4 special election must be certified to boards of elections by 4 p.m. (90 days before special election) R.C. 3501.01 , 02
May 15	Absentee ballots returned by U.S. Mail must be postmarked no later than May 4 and received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after primary/special election) R.C. 3509.05 , 3511.11 UOCAVA absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after primary/special election) R.C. 3511.11
May 16	Boards of elections may begin official canvass of May 5 primary/special election ballots (11 days after primary/special election) R.C. 3513.22
May 20	Boards of elections must begin official canvass of May 5 primary/special election ballots no later than this date (15 days after primary/special election) R.C. 3513.22
May 26	Boards of elections must complete canvass of May 5 primary/special election ballots no later than this date (21 days after primary/special election) R.C. 3513.22
June 5	Boards of elections must schedule a program for instruction of precinct election officials (within 60 days before special election) R.C. 3501.27
June 11*	Last day for local option petitioners to send street listing to Division of Liquor Control (55 days before August 4 deadline for filing petitions for Nov. 3 general election) ... R.C. 4301.33 , 4305.14
June 14	Board of elections of most populous county of a district located in more than one county must transmit petitions of independent candidates to other boards of elections R.C. 3513.262
June 20	UOCAVA absentee ballots for Aug. 4 special election must be ready (45 days before special election) R.C. 3511.04 Boards of elections must update and publish notices of Aug. 4 special election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 45 days before special election) R.C. 3511.16
June 23	Boards of elections must advertise in newspaper(s) the places, dates, times, qualifications, and methods for voter registration (6 weeks before special election) R.C. 3503.12
July 1	Constitutional amendments or statutes proposed by initiative petitions submitted directly to the voters must be filed with Secretary of State (125 days before general election) OH Const. II, §§1a-1b
July 5	May 5 primary/special election ballots may be discarded, except for federal office, unless ordered held by a court or the Secretary of State (61 days after primary/special election) R.C. 3505.31 , 42 USC 1974
July 6*	Deadline for voter registration for Aug. 4 special election (30 days before special election)..... R.C. 3503.19
July 7	Non-UOCAVA absentee ballots for Aug. 4 special election must be ready (first day after close of voter registration) R.C. 3509.01

*Note: In some instances, the statutory deadline falls on a day when the offices of the Secretary of State and boards of elections are closed. In those instances, the deadlines are extended pursuant to R.C. 1.14 to the next succeeding day when the appropriate office is open for regular business hours. The preceding dates reflect the extended deadline.

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SOS 0503 (06/2015)

2015	Reference
July 15	Boards of elections must certify petitions of independent candidates R.C. 3513.262 Deadline to file corrections and challenges to precinct registration lists (20 days before special election) R.C. 3503.24 Deadline for an elector to challenge qualification of another elector (20 days before special election) R.C. 3505.19 Committees advocating or opposing issues on Aug. 4 special election ballot must file by 4 p.m. to be recognized as a committee to appoint observers (20 days before special election) R.C. 3505.21
July 21	Boards of elections must prepare precinct voter registration lists (14 days before special election) R.C. 3503.23
July 24	Deadline for political parties, groups of candidates and issue committees to file notice of observer appointments (11 days before special election) R.C. 3505.21
July 25	Boards of elections must give public notice of Aug. 4 special election (10 days before special election) R.C. 3501.03
July 26	Boards of elections must prepare and publish notices of the Nov. 3 general election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 100 days before general election) R.C. 3511.16
July 30	Protests against independent candidates nominated by petition must be filed by 4 p.m. R.C. 3513.262
Aug. 1	Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed for Aug. 4 special election must be received by noon (3 days before special election) R.C. 3509.03 , 08 , 3511.02
Aug. 3	Amendments to observer appointments must be filed by 4 p.m. (day before special election)..... R.C. 3505.21 Boards of elections must submit verification forms of handicapped accessible parking and handicapped accessible polling locations to the Secretary of State's office (no later than day before special election) R.C. 3501.29
Aug. 4	Special Election may be held. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. R.C. 3501.01 , 32 If voter, or voter's minor child, is hospitalized because of accident or medical emergency, voter may apply for an absentee ballot until 3 p.m. R.C. 3509.08 Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. Mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls R.C. 3509.05 , 3511.11
Aug. 5	Constitutional amendments proposed by joint resolution of the General Assembly must be filed with Secretary of State (90 days before general election) OH Const. XVI. §1 Nominating petitions of candidates in nonpartisan races must be filed by 4 p.m. (90 days before general election) R.C. 1907.13 , 3513.259 , 263 Local questions and issues for Nov. 3 general election, including local option petitions, must be certified to or filed with boards of elections by 4 p.m. (90 days before general election) R.C. 731.28 , 29 , 3501.02 , 4301.33 , 331 , 332 , 333 , 334 , 4305.14
Aug. 10*	Political party or independent candidate nominating committees must certify name of person to fill vacancy on ballot caused by withdrawal or disqualification of candidate by 4 p.m. (86 days before general election) R.C. 3513.31
Aug. 14	Absentee ballots returned by U.S. Mail must be postmarked no later than Aug. 3 and received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after special election) R.C. 3509.05 , 3511.11 UOCAVA absentee ballots for Aug. 4 special election must be received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after special election) R.C. 3511.11
Aug. 15	Boards of elections may begin official canvass of Aug. 4 special election ballots (11 days after special election) R.C. 3505.32
Aug. 17	Boards of elections must certify the validity and sufficiency of candidates' petitions in nonpartisan races (78 days before general election) R.C. 3513.263 Boards of elections must certify the validity and sufficiency of local option petitions (78 days before general election) R.C. 4301.33 , 331 , 332 , 333 , 334 , 4305.14
Aug. 19	Boards of elections must begin official canvass of Aug. 4 special election ballots no later than this date (15 days after special election) R.C. 3505.32
Aug. 21	Protests against candidates for nonpartisan office must be filed by this date (74 days before general election) R.C. 3513.263 Protests against local option petitions must be filed by 4 p.m. (74 days before general election) R.C. 4301.33 , 331 , 332 , 333 , 334 , 4305.14
Aug. 24*	Write-in candidates for Nov. 3 general election must file declarations of intent by 4 p.m. (72 days before general election) R.C. 3513.041
Aug. 25	Boards of elections must complete canvass of Aug. 4 special election ballots no later than this date (21 days after special election) R.C. 3505.32 Form of official Nov. 3 general election ballots must be certified by Secretary of State to boards of elections (70 days before general election) R.C. 3505.01 Boards of elections of most populous county in a multi-county subdivision must certify names of all candidates for general election ballot to other boards of elections (70 days before general election) R.C. 3505.01
Aug. 28	Protests against write-in candidates must be filed by 4 p.m. (67 days before general election) R.C. 3513.041
Sep. 4	Boards of elections must schedule a program for instruction of precinct election officials (within 60 days before general election) R.C. 3501.27
Sep. 19	UOCAVA absentee ballots for Nov. 3 general election must be ready (45 days before general election) R.C. 3511.04 Boards of elections must update and publish notices of Nov. 3 general election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 45 days before general election) R.C. 3511.16
Sep. 22	Boards of elections must advertise in newspaper(s) the places, dates, times, qualifications, and methods for voter registration (6 weeks before general election) R.C. 3503.12
Oct. 4	Aug. 4 special election ballots may be discarded, unless ordered held by a court or the Secretary of State (61 days after special election)..... R.C. 3505.31
Oct. 5*	Deadline for voter registration for Nov. 3 general election (30 days before general election)..... R.C. 3501.10(B) , 3503.19
Oct. 6	Non-UOCAVA absentee ballots for Nov. 3 general election must be ready (first day after close of voter registration) R.C. 3509.01
Oct. 14	Deadline to file corrections and challenges to precinct registration lists (20 days before general election) R.C. 3503.24 Deadline for an elector to challenge qualification of another elector (20 days before general election) R.C. 3505.19 Committees advocating or opposing issues on Nov. 3 general election ballot must file by 4 p.m. to be recognized as a committee to appoint observers (20 days before general election) R.C. 3505.21
Oct. 15	Last day for local option petitioners to send street listing to Division of Liquor Control (55 days before Dec. 9, 2015 deadline for filing petitions for March 8, 2016 presidential primary election) R.C. 4301.33 , 4305.14
Oct. 20	Boards of elections must prepare precinct voter registration lists (14 days before general election) R.C. 3503.23
Oct. 23	Deadline for political parties, groups of candidates and issue committees to file notice of observer appointments (11 days before general election) R.C. 3505.21
Oct. 24	Boards of elections must give public notice of Nov. 3 general election (10 days before general election) R.C. 3501.03
Oct. 26*	Certificate to fill vacancy on ballot caused by death of candidate nominated at primary election whose name is on ballot in more than one county must be filed by 4 p.m. (10 days before general election) R.C. 3513.31
Oct. 29	Certificate to fill vacancy on ballot caused by death of independent or nonpartisan candidate prior to Oct. 25 (10 days before general election) must be filed by 4 p.m. (5 days before general election) R.C. 3513.31 Certificate to fill vacancy on ballot caused by death of candidate nominated at primary election whose name is on ballot in only one county must be filed by 4 p.m. (5 days before general election) R.C. 3513.31
Oct. 31	Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed for Nov. 3 general election must be received by boards of elections by noon (3 days before general election) R.C. 3509.03 , 08 , 3511.02
Nov. 2	Amendments to observer appointments must be filed by 4 p.m. (day before general election)..... R.C. 3505.21 Boards of elections must submit verification forms of handicapped accessible parking and handicapped accessible polling locations to the Secretary of State's office (no later than day before general election) R.C. 3501.29
Nov. 3	General Election Day. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. R.C. 3501.01 , 32 If voter, or voter's minor child, is hospitalized because of accident or medical emergency, voter may apply for absentee ballot until 3 p.m. R.C. 3509.08 Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. Mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls R.C. 3509.05 , 3511.11
Nov. 13	Absentee ballots returned by U.S. Mail must be postmarked no later than Nov. 2 and received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after general election) R.C. 3509.05 , 3511.11 UOCAVA absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after general election) R.C. 3511.11
Nov. 14	Boards of elections may begin official canvass of Nov. 3 general election ballots (11 days after general election) R.C. 3505.32
Nov. 18	Boards of elections must begin official canvass of Nov. 3 general election ballots no later than this date (15 days after general election) R.C. 3505.32
Nov. 24	Boards of elections must complete canvass of Nov. 3 general election ballots no later than this date (21 days after general election) R.C. 3505.32
Dec. 6	Boards of elections must prepare and publish notices of March 15, 2016 presidential primary election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 100 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3511.16
Dec. 16	Constitutional amendments proposed by joint resolution of the General Assembly must be filed with Secretary of State (90 days before presidential primary election) OH Const. XVI. §1 Declarations of candidacy for partisan candidates must be filed by 4 p.m. (90 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3513.05 Declarations of candidacy for presidential delegates and alternates to a party's national nominating committee must be filed by 4 p.m. (90 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3513.121 Local questions and issues for March 15, 2016 presidential primary election, including local option petitions, must be certified to or filed with boards of elections by 4 p.m. (90 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 731.28 , 29 , 3501.02 , 4301.33 , 331 , 332 , 333 , 334 , 4305.14
Dec. 28	Applications for absentee ballots for March 15, 2016 presidential primary election may be accepted (90 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3509.03 , 3511.02 Boards of elections must certify the validity and sufficiency of partisan candidates' petitions (78 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3513.05 Boards of elections must certify the validity and sufficiency of local option petitions (78 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 4301.33 , 331 , 332 , 333 , 334 , 4305.14

2016	Reference
Jan. 1	Applications for absentee ballots for all 2016 elections may be accepted (first day of the year; presidential primary election applications for absentee ballots accepted starting Dec. 16, 2015) R.C. 3509.03 , 3511.02
Jan. 3	Nov. 3, 2015 general election ballots may be discarded, except for federal office, unless ordered held by a court or the Secretary of State (61 days after general election)..... R.C. 3505.31 , 52 USC 20701
Jan. 4 *	Protests against partisan candidates' petitions must be filed by 4 p.m. (74 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3513.05 Protests against local option petitions must be filed by 4 p.m. (74 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 4301.33 , 331 , 332 , 333 , 334 , 4305.14
Jan. 5	Write-in candidates for March 15 presidential primary election must file declarations of intent by 4 p.m. (72 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3513.041 Form of official ballots for March 15 presidential primary election must be certified by Secretary of State to boards of elections (70 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3513.05 Boards of elections of most populous county in a multi-county district must certify names of all candidates to other boards of elections (70 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3513.05
Jan. 8	Protests against write-in candidates must be filed by 4 p.m. (67 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3513.041
Jan. 15	Boards of elections must schedule a program for instruction of precinct election officials (within 60 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3501.27 Election Administration Plans for March 15 presidential primary election must be submitted to Secretary of State's Office (60 days before presidential primary election)
Jan. 30	UOCAVA absentee ballots for March 15 presidential primary election must be ready (45 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3509.01 , 3511.04 Boards of elections must update and publish notices of March 15 presidential primary election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 45 days before presidential primary election) R.C. 3511.16

*Note: In some instances, the statutory deadline falls on a day when the offices of the Secretary of State and boards of elections are closed. In those instances, the deadlines are extended pursuant to R.C. 1.14 to the next succeeding day when the appropriate office is open for regular business hours. The preceding dates reflect the extended deadline.

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